Vancouver metro

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017

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Your essential daily news | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017 | High 4°C/Low -1°C Cloudy

'When is White Complicity Month?'
Vicky Mochama reflects on I Am Not Your Negro
metroVIEWS

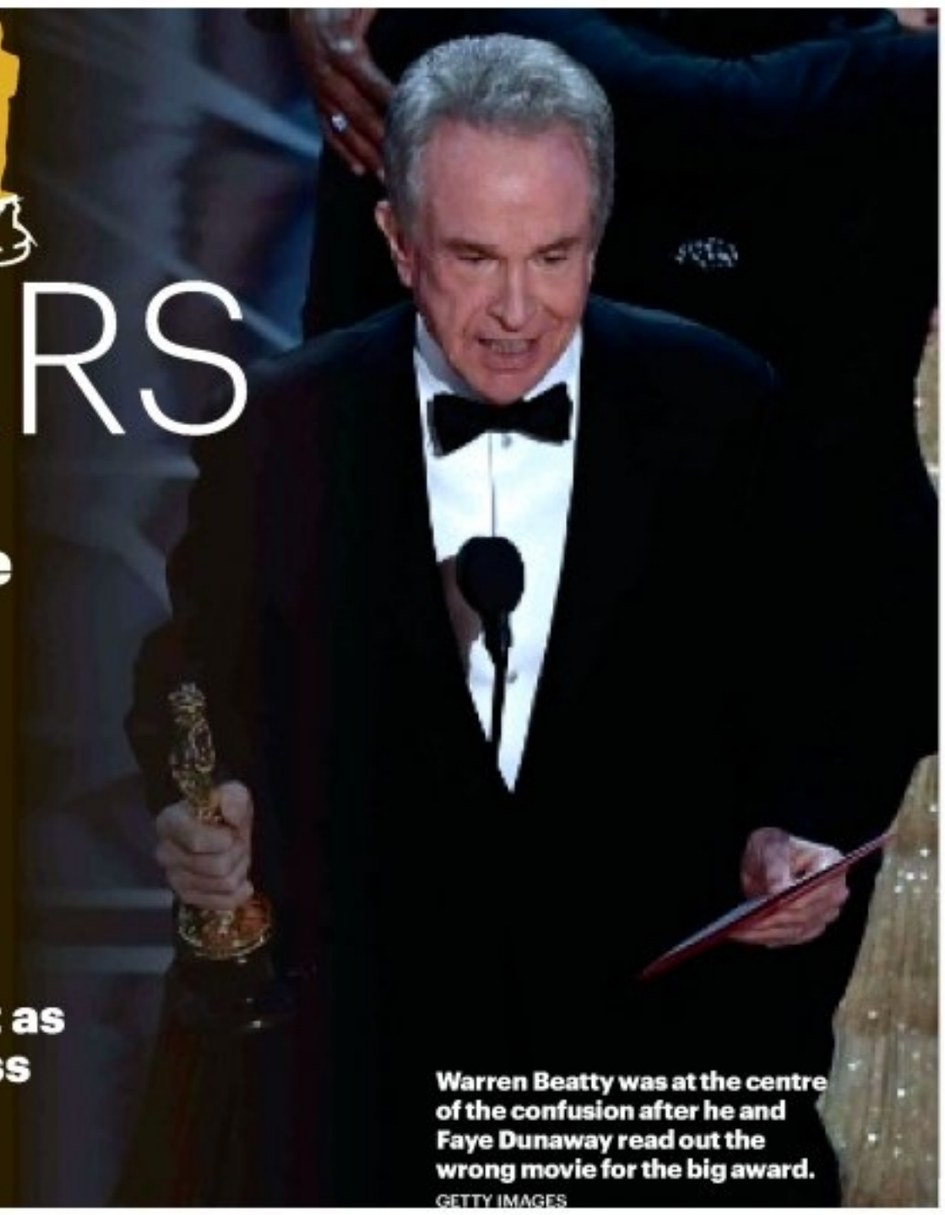
THE OSCARS

Stars scramble after Best Picture mix-up

The most political Oscars ever

Davis speaks from heart as best supporting actress

metroLIFE



Warren Beatty was at the centre of the confusion after he and Faye Dunaway read out the wrong movie for the big award.
GETTY IMAGES

Caught crossing border

IMMIGRATION

Turkish pair detained after illegally entering Canada

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Two Turkish citizens were turned over to Canadian Immigration officials after police caught them crossing the Canada-U.S. border illegally Saturday morning, according to Surrey RCMP.

The man and woman only had personal belongings with them, RCMP said in a written release. Officers found them near 170th Street and 0 Avenue in Surrey.

"The two were detained under the Immigration Act and were cooperative with Police," said Surrey RCMP.

It is not clear whether the two people arrested plan to make a refugee claim.

Metro interviewed three refugees who made it across the border successfully in February. They say they fled the U.S. because of Trump's immigration policy.

The Canadian Border Services Agency confirmed the number of refugee claims has gone up in the past two years. In 2015, 174 people claimed refugee status in the Pacific Region. Last year, that number rose to 220.

WITH FILES FROM DAVID P. BALL/METRO

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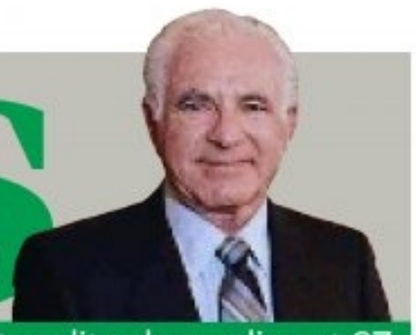
metro NEWS

Your essential daily news



Joseph Wapner, original judge of The People's Court reality show, dies at 97.

'It makes us feel like we're nothing'

By not adjusting welfare rates for inflation since 2007, British Columbia will pay $1,345 less to the most vulnerable this year.

DAVID P. BALL METRO

Patti, a 51-year-old Abbotsford single mom, recently used up her once-a-month allotment from her local food bank, as well as her once-a-month cash advance from Payday Loans — where she estimates she spends up to $200 on fees and interest every time.

The mother of one, whom Metro agreed to identify by first name only, didn't choose to live like this, she explained. That's because for nearly 25 years she's received provincial disability assistance for a lifelong hip disability and back pain, requiring 37 surgeries, she said.

"It's humiliating," she said. "It's not the way we should be treated. It makes us feel like we're nothing in this world."

In last week's pre-election budget, the British Columbia government kept its welfare rate the same it has been since 2007 — for a single person, $610 monthly — but upped its disability assistance rate by $50 a month.

"Big whoop-dee-doo," Patti said of the top-up. "What's that going to do? … How are we supposed to pay bills on that by the time we pay rent.

"I went to welfare (office) the other day, they said, 'Your rent portion is only $375.' I said, 'You find me a place where a one-bedroom is going for $375 — even at $900 you're hard-pressed to find a place. It's like they want us to live on the streets."

I'd like to see (Premier) Christy Clark herself live like this for one whole month, in an apartment rented for what we get. How would she manage it?
Patti, 51

B.C.'s big budget day was also "cheque day" for the roughly 175,000 in the province on assistance, about 43 per cent of them on welfare, the rest disability benefits.

Single disability recipients now get $1,033 a month thanks to what Premier Christy Clark referred to Thursday as a "dividend" because of British Columbians' hard work and success.

But those on social assistance saw the opposite.

"In the budget, we raised the rates for people on disability by $600 a year, which is the first increase that people on disability have had in quite a few years," Clark told reporters Wednesday.

"When it comes to social assistance, though, what I would say is we are trying to help people move from welfare to work.

"I believe that most people who are on social assistance — not disability assistance, social assistance — want to find their way into a job … There are lots of jobs out there. We want to support people who are currently on welfare finding their way into a job."

But since neither disability or welfare assistance have been pegged to inflation, the steady increase in the cost of a basket of goods over time, saying they've stagnated is an understatement.

By locking the welfare at 2007 rates — $610 monthly, or $7,320 a year — B.C. effectively paid $1,345 less to recipients in today's money because of 1.7 per cent-a-year inflation, according to the Bank of Canada's online calculator tool.

"Most provinces, if they haven't already, are starting to consider inflationary increases to social assistance and disability," said the New Democrats' social development critic Michelle Mungall in a phone interview. "There's no doubt in our mind that leaving people in poverty is just plain wrong.

"For most people who do receive social assistance, it's not permanent — most eventually move on to employment or disability … But how do you get enough food so you have a full stomach when you go to a job interview?"

Mungall, who used to operate a food bank in her riding of Nelson, said that relying on charities simply won't cut it when so many have more demand than supply of food. On Monday, she plans to introduce legislation to lift assistance rates for her sixth time, so far unsuccessfully.

"We all need to get together and get the government to realize we are humans too who don't deserve to live like this," Patti said.

B.C. Premier Christy Clark speaks to a Greater Vancouver Board of Trade luncheon audience last Wednesday, a day after her government tabled its final budget. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

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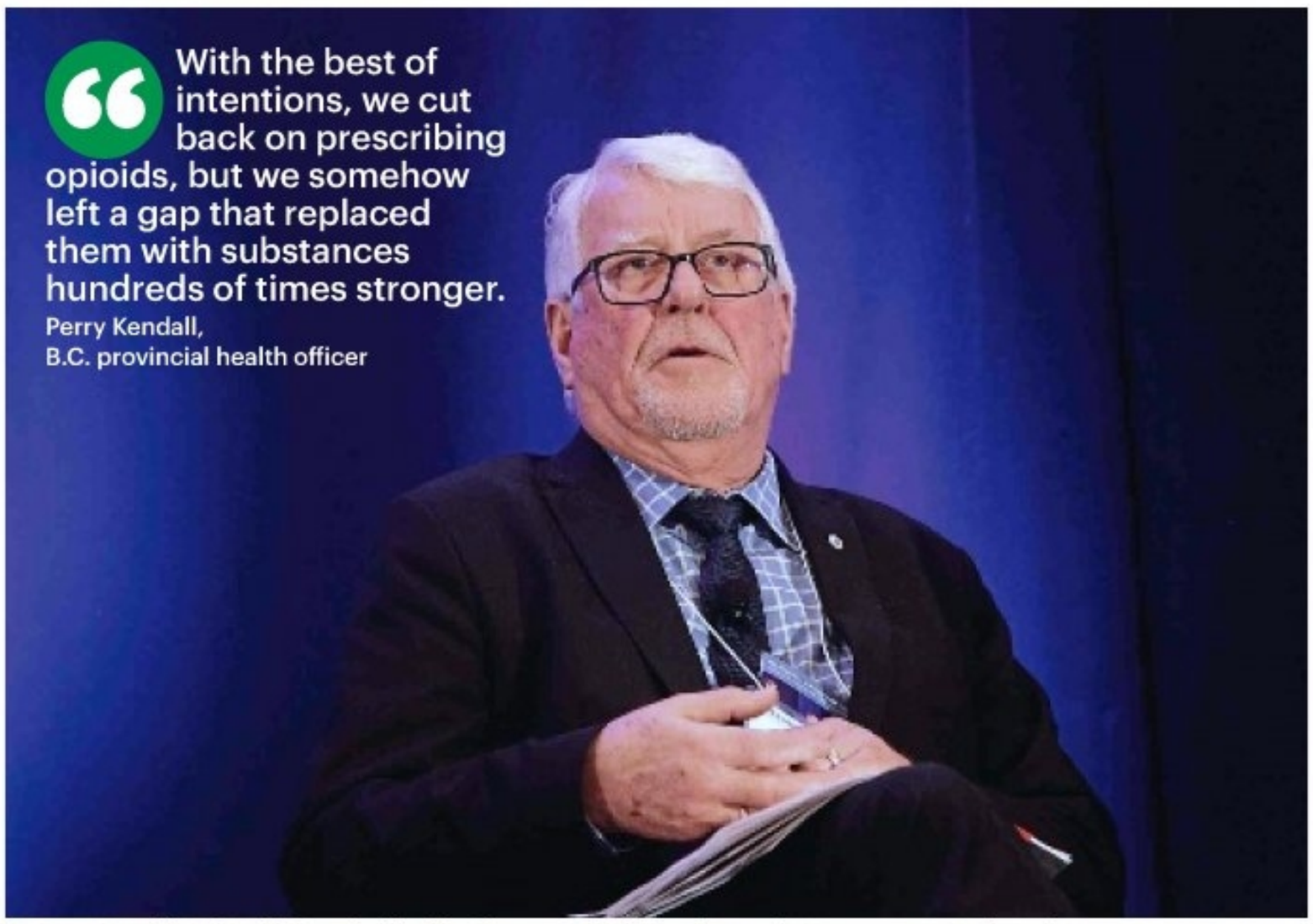
Top doc: Overdose victims 'are not disposable people'

HEALTH

Official says crisis has complex roots in the 1990s

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver


With the best of intentions, we cut back on prescribing opioids, but we somehow left a gap that replaced them with substances hundreds of times stronger.
Perry Kendall,
B.C. provincial health officer

Dr. Perry Kendall, B.C.'s chief medical health officer, speaks at a conference in Vancouver on Wednesday. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

It's said the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

When it comes to today's deadly opioid epidemic, which killed 922 in B.C. last year, and tens of thousands in the U.S., Dr. Perry Kendall said the road to that hell was actually paved by well-intentioned fellow physicians two decades ago.

And the British Columbia provincial health officer is increasingly fed up with an attitude he still sees in letters to the editor: "You chose to make these bad decisions, suck it up."

On the contrary, he explained in a keynote address at a Canadian Mental Health Association B.C. conference on Thursday, today's overdose crisis has "complex" roots in the 1990s.

"We had seen in the 1990s a huge increase in the prescription of opioids (such as) Oxycontin," he said, adding that drug-makers developed less addictive versions of those painkillers, but it came at a cost. "With the best of intentions, we cut back on prescribing opioids, but we somehow left a gap that replaced them with substances hundreds of times stronger.

"We saw people who had become dependent on prescription opioids moving to illegal opioids."

The statistics from the Coroner suggest that, although the majority of urban overdose deaths are from chronic users of illicit drugs, that's only part of the picture, and not the case in rural areas, with fully one-in-four people dying in the B.C. Interior, he said, who "are not people who are regular drug users, they're young people who are experimenting" with recreational drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamine or ecstasy.

"Many of these people who are dying are younger people, 15-year-olds and 17-year-olds, or 30-year-olds who maybe once a month take drugs for an experience," he said.

Additionally, there are many cases from people injured in industrial accidents, Kendall noted, and became addicted to high-dose opioids in hospital.

A significant disproportion of those dying are First Nations, he added.

In one incident, Kendall said, a Lower Mainland wedding saw 43 people overdose "who thought they had bought crack cocaine so they could stay up and have a good time," he recounted. "That crack cocaine had been contaminated with fentanyl, probably not intentionally.

"If you're in a back kitchen somewhere mixing something up, one white powder looks like another white powder and you just want to get something out there."

And while that might not be most people's idea of a typical after-wedding activity, the "suck it up" attitude Kendall's heard in some quarters simply "doesn't help someone with substance use and mental health to come forward" if they know there will be little sympathy for their struggle.

"Trying to reach out to bring a human face to realize these aren't disposable people has been a very important part of trying to de-stigmatize the victims of this overdose epidemic," he said.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Fentanyl trafficking presents new challenges

Illicit drugs have always been a problem in port cities, but experts say the emergence of highly potent synthetic opioids that are fuelling British Columbia's overdose crisis are slipping through borders in new ways, presenting challenges for law enforcement.

International regulations, online ordering and the potency of the drug are among the factors making it difficult to prevent the drug from slipping through Canada's borders.

More than 1,000 people have died from illicit drug overdoses in B.C. since January 2016, many as a result of the powerful opioids fentanyl and carfentanil which law enforcement says largely comes from China.

Canada Border Services Agency says seizures of fentanyl at Vancouver International Mail Centre have more than doubled to 54 last year from 23 in 2015.

But RCMP national drug program co-ordinator Sgt. Luc Chicoine said while lives are saved with every seizure, there's no knowing how much of a dent every confiscation of drugs makes.

"For example, if we seize 100 kilos of a certain drug that's coming into the country, was it only 100 kilos coming in or was it a million kilos?" he said. "We don't have the capability of identifying what is the full scope."

The high potency of fentanyl has allowed traffickers to transport smaller quantities with other imports, on individuals or through the mail, making it harder for agencies to detect.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man walks past a mural by street artist Smokey D. about the overdose crisis in the Downtown Eastside. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Regional DIGEST

Plane crash survivors granted access to cockpit voice recorder

Survivors of a fiery plane crash just outside Vancouver's international airport have won access to an audio recording of what was happening in the cockpit before their aircraft plummeted from the sky.

In a decision released Friday for on ongoing legal action, Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson of the B.C. Supreme Court said granting access to the cockpit voice recorder serves a public good that outweighs any confidentiality concerns.

Hinkson ordered the Transportation Safety Board to provide the recording to the survivors and Northern Thunderbird Air Inc. after concluding it contained no "sensational or disturbing" communication.

In October 2011, a twin-engine plane carrying two pilots and seven passengers turned back shortly after taking off from Vancouver, only to crash about a kilometre short of the runway, clipping a car in rush-hour traffic and slamming into a lamppost.

All the passengers were seriously injured and both pilots died in hospital.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health Canada confirms laced chemicals found in illicit drugs

Health Canada tests have confirmed the presence of dangerous substances laced into other illicit drugs in two B.C. communities.

The RCMP say pebble heroin seized in Surrey last December has come back positive for the chemical W-18, a drug developed as a potential painkiller.

The Mounties say cocaine seized by the West Shore detachment on Vancouver Island last May has also tested positive for the synthetic opioid fentanyl.

Health Canada has warned RCMP that this particular strain of fentanyl had not been seen in the area before.

At the time the cocaine was seized, police say there had been three overdoses in the area that authorities were called to.

RCMP assistant commissioner Jim Gresham says these results are a reminder to illicit-drug users that there are dangers no matter where they buy their drugs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HEADLINE
COFFEE

Lava Java

Discovering a Guatemalan coffee that's (almost literally) erupting with flavour

By: Sean Deasy

The Guatemalan mountains

A lot goes into making a great cup of coffee, and perhaps nothing more important than the origins of the bean itself. From idyllic climate conditions to the high-nutrient content of the soil, the coffee we enjoy is very much the sum of its parts. And, on rare occasions, we get a bonus.

In this case: Fedecocagua coffee. Already benefiting from the fertile soil of Guatemala's San Marcos region – the country's coffee-belt – its rich bean has traces of volcanic ash to inform a singularly unique flavour – one that summons chocolate, vanilla and one rather surprising nuance: smokiness.

"What I find exciting about this Guatemalan coffee is that the beans are grown on the slopes of volcanic soil," says roaster Eric Shabsove from Mountain View Coffee in Toronto. "It's one of the things I love about San Marcos. When you drink it you can just picture the volcano with centuries of accumulated volcanic soil, and you can actually taste the hint of smokiness that comes from years and years of eruptions. It's truly fantastic."

Shabsove insists the hint is so slight that it shouldn't deter smoke-shy java drinkers.

The region also boasts another distinctive characteristic: a considerably long harvesting period – from November through March.

"What you get in Guatemala is a harvest season that extends into early spring. It's typical amongst all Central American coffee countries, notably in Costa Rica, where you can start harvesting let's say in November, December and into January."

Shabsove says something exceptional happens after the two-month processing period (in which time the beans are harvested, washed and dried). "When you see the beans ready to be shipped, you're also already seeing the flowers blooming for next season. That's what so great about it: ultimately the beans are really bigger and better and you get that really fantastic taste."

Another natural asset for the San Marcos region is an abundance of rainfall, more so than other regions of the country, says Shabsove. "[The additional rainfall] does give that extra boost to the production and early flowering, so the beans are that much tastier, they've had a little bit longer to mature."

Speaking of quality control, this is a handpicking operation, primarily because of where and how the beans are grown: on steep volcanic slopes.

The growers

So who's doing the growing, picking and producing of this delightful coffee?

Fedecocagua – already a mouthful for some to pronounce – is the abbreviation for the Federación de Cooperativas Agrícolas de Productores de Café de Guatemala. It's a federation of roughly 148 co-operatives and 20,000 members from across Guatemala's coffee belt, many of which are of Mayan origin.

"I believe about 70 percent of its members are comprised of indigenous peoples of Guatemala," says Eric Shabsove. The members are growers who typically own small plots or family farms, typically averaging 1.3 hectares. While the cultivation of coffee is their primary function – according to Shabsove, coffee represents 80 to 90 percent of a farm's income – they also produce basic grains and other agricultural products for their own consumption.

For these growers joining a co-op minimizes obstacles such as high processing costs and problems in product quality, and helps with technical advice and accessing financing.

"The co-ops help with getting these farmers a line of credit. They're able to borrow money to help with expenses when they bring their beans in to process," says Shabsove. "Membership also helps with warehousing, transportation of the product and allows them to access the fair trade premiums, which is also a boon because it provides additional income."

The order of coffee

Shabsove is particularly excited about introducing Guatemalan Fedecocagua coffee as this month's Headline Coffee. As the chief roaster and curator of the series, he is taking us on a guided tour of the world's best coffees – but he's doing so on a very deliberate path.

"It's always really great coffee, but to embark on a true journey of taste, we need to accentuate every region, because they all have their own distinct characteristics. And I'm trying to make it a unique experience every time. We're back in Central America now, for instance, but we've definitely not tasted anything like this before."

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SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

New tech tries harness power of decision making

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

If you haven't heard of John Richardson, you may have heard of one of some of the projects he's been involved with: before founding the poverty law advocacy group Pivot Legal Society, the Vancouver lawyer articled with environmental law charity Ecojustice.

But previously, Richardson was a mathematician — and an idea that he conceived during his undergraduate math degree's finally come to term years later.

The idea was Ethelo Decisions Inc., and this month the Vancouver social enterprise began selling shares as it expands its online mass decision-making software's reach.

If it succeeds, Richardson believes it could alter the way society makes choices.

Ethelo Decisions Inc. CEO and founder John Richardson examines the decision-making interface on a tablet held by Michelle Martin, the social enterprise's chief marketing officer.
CONTRIBUTED/ETHELO DECISIONS INC.

"When you look at a Legislature or Parliament, this is 300-year old technology where you get people in a room — separated by the length of a sword — and have them argue with each other, vote on things occasionally, and run for election every four years," he said in a phone interview. "It's pretty dysfunctional, and we're seeing the results of that dysfunction everywhere around us more and more.

"The root of many of society's problems today is how we make decisions. We need to think about new ways of doing democracy."

But at the time he hatched the concept, he recalled, "The internet then wasn't at the state it is today. So I set it aside and got pulled into Pivot Legal Society, but I was always thinking about the algorithm in the back of my mind."

What Richardson created is a computer algorithm that allows large numbers of people to express their preferences, and the software calculates "millions" of possible decisions and ranks them to find the most agreeable ones for the most people, he explained, "kind of like a search engine."

That enables new means to engage hundreds or even many thousands of people to learn background information behind important choices, learn what their constraints are — maximum budget, for instance, legal limits or a set deadline — and offer their overall preferred solution.

Sounds utopian? Ethelo's largest client is actually the Government of Canada, albeit for internal decision-making within departments — for instance on staffing, budgeting, client feedback, or assessing risk.

Richardson said it's only a matter of time before governments start using "public-facing" versions to receive input, and a non-profit wing of Ethelo has already offered its software for free to other non-profit social issue organizations.

However, in light of Donald Trump's election upset in the U.S. despite millions fewer votes than Hilary Clinton — or Britain's vote to leave the European Union — is there a risk that encouraging governments to conduct real-time, large-scale popular voting could be derailed by fringe movements or extremism?

> **"The root of many of society's problems today is how we make decisions.**
> John Richardson

The threat of the "alt-right" is ostensibly why Prime Minister Justin Trudeau abandoned his promised electoral reforms.

"Our current system is actually more vulnerable to an alt-right takeover than a broadly distributed system," Richardson countered. "It is already possible for a small minority party to come into power and set the agenda in contrast to the will of the vast majority of people.

"If people are presented only with 'yes-or-no' or 'black-or-white' choices on complex problems, it comes down to marketing and campaigning. That doesn't bring any collective intelligence to bear."

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Rhonda Doram, founder of HoneyDo Lifestyle Assistant, got the idea for her business after taking care of her elderly grandmother, she says. CONTRIBUTED/HONEYDO

Lending a hand with care for aging parents

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

HoneyDo eases stress for families

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Finding care for an elderly parent who needs help vacuuming or a grandparent who needs someone to do the laundry is a task an increasing number of people are facing and entrepreneur Rhonda Doram knows the challenge all too well.

About a quarter of Canadians will reach retirement age by 2036, according to Statistics Canada, and many seniors will require care. The aging population's demand for care is already stretching health-care services in B.C., with 289 out of 292 care homes providing less than four hours of direct care per day, according to the province's Seniors Advocate website.

So it is no surprise that Doram's senior-services business, HoneyDo, has doubled its clients in recent years.

"It is possible for seniors to be safe and successful at home for longer than we think it is. There are options for them," the Delta resident told Metro.

"They can be independent and have peace of mind and freedom and be able to make their own choices."

Doram's nine-year-old business, HoneyDo, provides non-medical care for people at home, including cooking, companionship, and everything in between.

It's work that would otherwise fall to adult children, who have their own young ones to take care of and often find themselves squeezed for time. Scholars call them the "sandwich generation."

She says about 80 per cent of the people who contact her are adult children looking for care for their aging parents.

"They don't even realize how much pressure is on them until they get some relief from it," she said.

"It takes burden off the family, it takes burden off the seniors, it takes burden off the health-care system."

Many of her clients want to age at home, while others are on waiting lists for a care home and need help with daily tasks in the meantime.

Doram, who got the idea for HoneyDo when she started helping her own grandma with daily tasks, says businesses like hers serve as a bridge between independence and full-time care.

"To see people improve at home and remain involved in their community and their activities and have their dignity — its pretty inspiring stuff."

Doram currently employs 10 people and serves more than 100 clients who live south of the Fraser. She recently won the nationwide Airmiles Social Venture Award.

Vancouver DIGEST

Surrey man dies in camper van fire

A 55-year-old Surrey man died Saturday morning when the camperized van he was sleeping in caught fire.

RCMP were called to a burning vehicle in the 10500 block of Scott Road around 7 a.m. The fire was extinguished and a man's body was found inside.

Investigators believe the fire started because of a short in the electrical system, which had been modified.

The B.C. Coroners Service is investigating and police are attempting to contact the man's next of kin.

JEFF HODSON/METRO

Organ donation program rolls out

People visiting ICBC licensing locations will now be urged to decide whether or not they wish to become organ donors.

The new program launches today at all 16 ICBC driver-licensing locations.

A pilot partnership between ICBC and BC Transplant debuted the program in North Vancouver, Abbotsford, Kelowna and Vancouver Royal Centre.

JEFF HODSON/METRO

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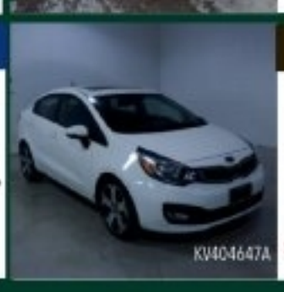
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Bolster your mumps defence, experts urge

HEALTH

At-risk groups need to make sure vaccines are up to date

Public health officials and infectious disease experts are urging Canadians to check that their vaccinations are up to date as clusters of mumps are investigated in Ontario and Alberta, and measles cases are probed in Nova Scotia.

The viral infections are both covered by the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) or measles-mumps-rubella-varicella (MMRV) vaccines. But experts say people between the ages of 18 and 35 need to ensure they've had two doses to bolster their immunity.

"Mumps and measles are very contagious illnesses … at the moment we have this particular issue with people who've only had one dose of vaccine. For this age group, it's a good time to check and make sure they've had two doses," said Dr. Allison McGeer, director of infection control at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital.

McGeer explained that when the mumps and measles vaccine was introduced, only one dose was administered but it later became apparent that two doses were needed for it to be effective over the long term.

McGeer said there was nothing overly worrisome about the recent mumps and measles cases but noted that they served as a reminder of the importance of immunization efforts.

"The fact that you can still get clusters of cases is a marker for just how important having those vaccination programs is. If they didn't happen then everybody got sick."

Dr. Sarah Wilson, a medical epidemiologist with Public Health Ontario, said individuals in the age range currently more susceptible to mumps may also

A dose of the MMR vaccine.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

be more at risk because of their behaviour traits.

That group is more likely to engage in behaviours and activities in which mumps spreads easily, like playing on sports teams, living in dormitories in close conditions and sharing drinks and food in bars, she said.

"These situations provide really rich opportunities for the mumps virus, if it's introduced, to spread easily in a population that might not be up to date with respect to mumps vaccine," said Wilson. "I think those are some of the potential explanation for why we're seeing more mumps these days, in particular in this age group."

Wilson explained that even those who get two doses of the vaccine can still sometimes end up with mumps — as seen in 40 per cent of the Toronto cases — as the vaccine is considered about 88 per cent effective at that point.

Complications from mumps can include encephalitis, meningitis, painful swelling of the testicles or the ovaries, pancreatitis and hearing loss. Pregnant women who become infected with mumps during the first three months of pregnancy are at risk of miscarriage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sun rises on music retail business

Sunrise Records is placing a major bet on Canadian music sales with plans to move into 70 retail spaces being vacated by HMV Canada.

The Ontario-based music retail chain has negotiated new leases with mall landlords across the country. Sunrise's expansion gives the company a quick foothold in the Canadian music scene just as the industry's largest retailer closes shop. Stores will begin to open this spring after HMV liquidates its stock.

"It's a good opportunity for us to get a lot more stores open," Sunrise Records president Doug Putman said in an interview.

"We think there needs to be a great outlet across Canada to buy music."

The 32-year-old executive's investment comes at a time when many are dismissing physical music sales as more listeners shift to streaming options.

Compact disc sales fell 19 per cent to 12.3 million units last year, according to data compiled by Nielsen Music Canada. Meanwhile, on-demand audio streams experienced dramatic growth, rising 203 per cent to 22 billion streams, helped by services like Apple Music and Spotify.

$100K

Court documents filed in January indicate HMV was hemorrhaging money, losing $100,000 a day. Putman says Sunrise aims to be fully profitable by 2018.

Putman isn't convinced the data signals the end of physical media.

"A lot of the younger consumers still love having something tangible," he argued.

Putman bought the Sunrise chain from Malcolm Perlman in October 2014 just as streaming was going mainstream. Perlman had spent the previous few years shutting down most of the Sunrise stores in the Toronto area, often blaming higher rent.

When Putman gained control of the company, there were five Sunrise Records stores left. He's since doubled the number by opening in Ontario cities like Ottawa and North Bay. He said all of those stores are profitable. THE CANADIAN PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

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metro EFFECT

Job offers roll in after woman tells her story

Cody McEachern
For Metro | Halifax

A trans woman has received a handful of job offers only hours after Metro told her story, and future employment may be right around the corner.

Rose Boudreau spoke to Metro Halifax on Thursday about her struggle to find a job as a trans woman, and her concerns of prejudice from employers, but within three hours of the story being released, she had received her first offer, with others rolling in the next morning.

"It felt awesome," said Boudreau. "Getting these calls and messages really made me feel valued. It was a great response, and made me feel like a weight was lifted off my chest."

Rose Boudreau
JEFF HARPER/METRO

The 22-year-old received multiple offers out of the blue from companies around Halifax.

"These companies contacted me under their own volition. I hadn't even applied to them, they just wanted to help me."

Only recently transitioning and being relatively new to the community, the support and offers have made her feel accepted and valued as a part of society, she said.

"Being able to have that platform to get my voice and story out has really helped. It connected me with people who support me and want to help."

‘This is not a battle, it’s a siege’

POLITICS

Democrats use Tea Party tactics at town halls across the U.S.

Constituents of Congressman Dave Brat protest during a town hall meeting with the congressman in Blackstone, Virginia, on Feb. 21. STEVE HELBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Near the end of his town hall meeting last week in a rural Virginia county, Republican Congressman Dave Brat tried to defuse the tension with some comedy.

“Anybody got a good joke?”

A couple hundred people who couldn’t fit into the cramped restaurant were standing outside, listening on loudspeakers. Their roaring answer could be heard through the closed door: “You!”

Democrats are in no mood for friendly banter. Disturbed by the election of Donald Trump and determined to thwart his agenda, progressives around the country are borrowing a move from the Tea Party movement that impeded Barack Obama in the early years of his presidency: swamping legislators’ local meetings to pepper them with jeers and tough questions.

Their primary goal, for the moment, is to protect the Affordable Care Act, the threatened health-care overhaul the Tea Party tried to prevent from coming into existence. More broadly, they want to show lawmakers there will be consequences for supporting virtually any part of the president’s program — at the very least, being pestered at every turn when they come home from Washington.

“I have no illusions that those of us who are horrified by Trump’s election are going to have something miraculous happen. This is not a battle, it’s a siege. But this kind of event gives us energy. And it puts people like Dave Brat on notice: He may have cruised along the first time around, but this is what his life is going to be like now, every day,” said Professor Mary Mullins, 61, a Brat constituent who had not been politically active since her youth.

The movement’s bible is an online manual called Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda. Written by about 30 former Democratic congressional aides and posted online in December, it provides advice, based largely on Tea Party tactics, on how to get members of Congress to listen.

Veteran activists are helping to organize a movement some describe as “the resistance,” and Matt Kibbe, president of prominent Tea Party backer FreedomWorks during the heyday of that movement, said Republicans are still “wrong to dismiss it.”

“Republicans are now accusing these activists of everything the Democrats accused the Tea Party of in 2009. I don’t think Democrats understood that the Tea Party was real, and maybe some Republicans don’t appreciate that this is real,” said Kibbe. “There’s obviously a lot of professional community organizers involved, but you can’t create this kind of grassroots participation. It has to be organic.”

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Donald Trump AP FILE

Trump wasn’t elected to hang with celebs: Spokeswoman

The White House says that when President Donald Trump skips the White House Correspondents’ Association dinner, expect him to spend that Saturday night in April “focused on what he can to do to help better America.”

The dinner attracts politicians, journalists and celebrities and is typically attended by the president, who’s often roasted.

Trump isn’t saying why he won’t be there. He has railed against “the fake news media,” saying it is “the enemy of the American people.”

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders says it’s “kind of naive of us to think that we can all walk into a room for a couple of hours and pretend that some of that tension isn’t there.”

She tells said that Trump wasn’t elected “to spend his time with reporters and celebrities.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspect in Mardi Gras crash three times over limit

The man who allegedly plowed into a crowd at a Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans had a blood alcohol level nearly three times the legal limit, police said Sunday.

The New Orleans Police Department issued a statement identifying the man as 25-year-old Neilson Rizzuto. He’s being held at the city’s jail on several charges.

The accident happened Saturday during one of the busiest nights of Mardi Gras. Police said Sunday that 28 people were hurt in the accident that sent 21 people to the hospital. At least three victims remained hospitalized overnight with moderate to serious injuries, police said Sunday. There were no fatalities.

Neilson Rizzuto ORLEANS PARISH SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Police say a breath alcohol test determined that Rizzuto’s alcohol level was nearly three times the legal limit.

Rizzuto’s father said he was still trying to understand what happened and that his son is a “good kid.” John Rizzuto told the station that he spoke with his son multiple times Sunday morning and that his son said “a stranger gave him a drink off the street and that’s the last thing he remembered.”

> A stranger gave him a drink off the street and that’s the last thing he remembered. John Rizzuto

Among the injured was one New Orleans police officer. Harrison said Saturday night the officer, who was on duty, was undergoing tests to determine the extent of her injuries. She was in “good spirits,” he said.

Saturday night’s parade was put on by the Krewe of Endymion, which is known for its long, elaborate floats and the big party it hosts at the Superdome after the parade.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Israel to Amazon: Stop selling the spread of hate

Israel’s official Holocaust memorial has asked Amazon to stop selling literature that denies the genocide of Jews during the Holocaust. Yad Vashem’s Robert Rozett says he has sent a letter to Amazon offering to help them “curb the spread of hatred.” THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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EGYPT COPTIC CHRISTIANS FLEE HOMES AFTER DAESH ATTACKS An Egyptian woman comforts an elderly Coptic Christian who weeps upon arriving to take refuge at the Evangelical Church in the Suez Canal city of Ismailiya on Saturday as dozens of Coptics leave Egypt's Sinai Peninsula after a string of jihadist attacks by Daesh killed three Christians in the restive province. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Father of fallen soldier refused to meet Trump

The father of a Navy SEAL killed during an anti-terrorism raid in Yemen is demanding an investigation into its planning and criticized the Trump administration for its timing.

Bill Owens told The Miami Herald in a story published Sunday that he refused to meet with President Donald Trump when both came to Dover Air Force Base to receive the casket carrying his son, Chief Special Warfare Officer William "Ryan" Owens.

"I want an investigation," said Owens, a retired Fort Lauderdale police detective and veteran. "The government owes my son an investigation."

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders told ABC's This Week on Sunday she believes the president would support an investigation.

"I can't imagine what this father is going through," she said.

The younger Owens, a 36-year-old married father of three, was the lone U.S. fatality in the Jan. 27 raid on a suspected al-Qaida compound.

The elder Owens told the Herald he refused to meet with the president because the family had requested a private ceremony.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who's that Swede?

BROADCASTING

Nordic nation baffled again after Fox News airs an 'expert'

A wave of puzzlement is rippling across Sweden for the second time in a week, after a prominent Fox News show featured a "Swedish defence and national security advisor" who's unknown to the country's military and foreign-affairs officials.

Swedes, and some Americans, have been wondering about representations of the Nordic nation in the U.S. since President Donald Trump invoked "what's happening last night in Sweden" while alluding to past terror attacks in Europe during a rally Feb. 18. There hadn't been any major incident in Sweden the previous night.

Then, Fox News commentator Bill O'Reilly convened an on-air faceoff Thursday over Swedish immigration and crime between a Swedish newspaper reporter and a man identified on screen and verbally as a "Swedish defence and national security advisor," Nils Bildt.

Bildt linked immigration to social problems in Sweden, lamented what he described as Swedish liberal close-mindedness about the downsides of welcoming newcomers and said: "We are unable in Sweden to socially integrate these people."

But if viewers might have taken the "advisor" for a government insider, the Swedish Defence Ministry and Foreign Office told reporters they knew nothing of him.

Bildt is a founding member of a corporate geopolitical strategy and security consulting business with offices in Washington, Brussels and Tokyo, according its website.

"He is not in any way a known quantity in Sweden and has never been part of the Swedish debate," Swedish Defence University leadership professor Robert Egnell said on Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Your essential daily news
Monday, February 27, 2017

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION

How do I support a person I care about, but am not close to, who was recently diagnosed with cancer?

Dear Ellen,

An acquaintance of mine was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. She's not a close friend, but someone I care about. How do I keep in touch, without hovering and asking intrusive questions?

Signed, Concerned

Dear Concerned,

The rules of etiquette are clear and easy to follow when it comes to big events like births, weddings, and funerals. It gets trickier with all the messy stuff in-between — like the times our friends and acquaintances are dealing with problems like depression, divorce or disease. It's easy to back away and tell ourselves we "don't want to intrude" and then wait for an invitation to act. But based on my own experiences, and mistakes, I've come around to the belief that it's better to err on the side of effort, rather than refrain from action.

I still regret my behaviour years ago, when a sort-of friend lost her fiancé in a traffic accident days before their wedding. I talked with some of her closer friends about it, and they said they'd decided to "just let her be" and not "bother" her. They'd see her around and be extra nice when she finished grieving and resumed socializing. Except she never did. She moved to another province and we never saw her again.

It felt wrong at the time, but I followed their lead and did nothing. Now I realize how cowardly that was. What I should have done was urged her closer friends to pick up the phone and call her immediately, and then sent a card myself instead of sitting here decades later, still filled with regret.

It's better to err on the side of effort.

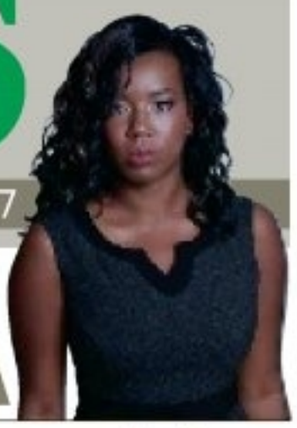
It's important to respect people's privacy. But if the knowledge of your acquaintance's cancer is out in the world, it's a mistake to use that privacy as an excuse not to act. So I'm glad to see that you, unlike my younger self, have the proper and compassionate — i.e. exquisitely well-mannered — impulse to "keep in touch" and are simply wondering how best to do that.

I suggest reaching out with an email or card, mentioning that you've heard what she's going through, you're thinking of her, and you'd love to hear from her, or see her, anytime she feels like getting in touch.

Worst-case scenario for you is that she's furious you dared to contact her — but that's okay. She's allowed to react anyway she likes at this point. And though it won't be pleasant for you, the fact is you acted in good faith, and deep down your sincere concern will register with her.

What you don't want is to leave her alone during what is probably the worst time of her life. It's always better to follow a generous instinct than ignore it — even if it feels clumsy and messy, like life.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca



VICKY MOCHAMA

Oscar-nominated doc highlights ongoing white apathy

This Black History Month, I have been thinking a lot about white people.

Because it feels increasingly condescending to congratulate black people for their bravery and rebellion without admonishing the society that made it necessary.

In I Am Not Your Negro, an Oscar-nominated documentary film based on an unfinished manuscript by late American writer James Baldwin, the author explains with commanding calm that the construct of race is ultimately something white people need. Until they question why they need race, there will always be racism.

So when we are supposed to celebrate the achievements of black people, I find myself looking past it to the history of white people who, through indifference, apathy and violence, stood in the way of those achievements. They still do.

I think of Viola Desmond, celebrated for her brave stance. Her bold action: daring to want to watch a movie like a person. For the quotidian act of insisting on her humanity, she was dragged out of a Nova Scotia theatre, imprisoned and fined. Shamed by the publicity of this story decades later, successive governments have apologized, issued stamps, and now a $10 bill.

Yet, part of that history is being conspicuously hidden: Desmond was not dragged out of an empty theatre. White moviegoers stood idly by. If the photos of black children integrating schools in the U.S. are any indication, white moviegoers jeered and cheered this violence. Perhaps, in a more Canadian way, they shook the hands of the theatre manager and the police officers to thank them. I can only guess; theirs aren't the stories we share.

Until white people develop intellectual curiosity about themselves, how can black people believe that "official" acts of contrition have fixed this pathology in the people who believe themselves to be white?

Where white supremacy is the de facto law of the land, race relations describes a two-way mirror. In it, only one side sees the other while one sees only their reflection. Black people, yes, black people in Canada too, not only know our culture and history, but we know white culture and history — and the pathology that protects and defends white supremacy — with a terrible closeness.

I find it hard to pretend the "successes" of black people are not just also reflections of white people and their institutions that, in cutting and critical ways, prevented black people from being more successful.

As Baldwin says in the documentary, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." The jeering white mobs and silent white moviegoers are the faces of white people you know.

This Black History Month, I have been thinking: When is White Complicity Month?

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Monday, February 27, 2017

And the best picture is...chaos

OSCARS

Envelope mess turns Academy Awards into a disaster movie

Joe Callaghan
Metro Canada

Chaos envelopes the stage at Sunday's Oscars ceremony after the wrong best picture winner is announced. GETTY IMAGES

Hollywood loves a twist...but it has never seen one quite like this.

The 89th Academy Awards ended in utter chaos Sunday night as the ceremony's biggest award — best picture — was handed to La La Land only for the Oscars to be quickly passed over to Moonlight as one of the most mortifying live TV snafus in history played out before a global audience.

Hollywood veterans Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway had been called upon to present the grandest Oscar of all but instead found themselves as the leads in an epic disaster.

Beatty paused long before the winner was announced by Dunaway because the envelope read Emma Stone, La La Land — winner of the best actress Oscar. Dunaway read the name La La Land after chiding Beatty for taking so long to read the winner.

Host Jimmy Kimmel came forward to inform the cast that Moonlight had indeed won, showing the envelope as proof.

Producer Jordan Horwitz then graciously passed his statue to the Moonlight producers.

Up until that point, things had been going rather well. A year after the narrow focus of nominations sparked the social media backlash #OscarsSoWhite, the 89th Academy Awards sent out a booming message of inclusion and empathy Sunday.

Cast in the shadow of Donald Trump's controversial moves in his first month as U.S. president, the Oscars were always likely to see a rebuttal to the divisive messages that dogged last year's election. So it proved.

A first Muslim actor winning an award was quickly followed up by three more African-American triumphs — setting a record — before an Iranian director, who had boycotted the ceremony in the wake of Trump's Muslim travel ban, claimed best documentary honours.

The awards had kicked off as expected — with one man front and centre. But once the Trump jokes that host Jimmy Kimmel peppered his opening riff with died down, there was a moment — and a victory — of true significance.

In the night's first award category, Mahershala Ali became the first Muslim actor to win an Oscar, his role in coming-of-age drama Moonlight securing him the best supporting actor honours.

Ali had made an impassioned acceptance speech last month at the SAG Awards, referencing persecution of minorities days after Trump's Muslim travel ban had been introduced. But on Sunday he concentrated on paying tribute to his loved ones.

Nonetheless, the recently elected president was prominent throughout the early evening at the Dolby Theatre with several top nominees sporting blue ribbons supporting the American Civil Liberties Union along the red carpet.

Once things got underway, Kimmel soon got down to what most had expected of him — roasting the U.S. president.

"I want to say thank you president Trump. I mean, remember last year when the Oscars seemed racist?," Kimmel said.

Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi, winner of the Oscar for best foreign film, sent Iranian astronaut Anousheh Ansari to read a statement for him.

"Dividing the world into 'us' and 'enemies' categories creates fear," Ansari said, concluding with a passionate defense of the power of film to create empathy "between us and others, an empathy that we need today."

It was Viola Davis who had introduced Streep for that stirring speech at the Golden Globes last month. On Sunday it was Davis who was accepting the adulation as she scooped best supporting actress for her powering display in Fences.

Later, Casey Affleck took his first Oscar as he triumphed over Fences director Denzel Washington in the best actor category, his gripping portrayal in the drama Manchester By The Sea winning over the judges.

Emma Stone took best actress as the La La Land-slide that had been anticipated gathered pace. Its mastermind Damien Chazelle became the youngest filmmaker to win best director honours at the age of 32. Fellow favourite Moonlight scored another significant win when it took best adapted screenplay.

As Dunaway and Beatty handed out the statuettes in what was supposedto be the night's closing act, it looked as though that would be Moonlight's lot. Then came that unforgettable twist.

WITH FILES FROM CP

> **It's been an amazing year for movies. Black people saved NASA and white people saved jazz.**
> Jimmy Kimmel, host, on Hidden Figures and La La Land

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STAR STYLE BEST DRESSED AT THE OSCARS

The Academy Awards is not a show where celebrities are generally rewarded for making bold fashion choices, but this year the best looks not only made a statement but took a stand. NICHOLE JANKOWSKI/METRO

Make a statement

Ruth Negga, nominated for best actress, accessorized her Valentino gown with responsibly sourced rubies as well as a blue ribbon supporting the American Civil Liberties Unio — as did best original song nominee Lin-Manuel Miranda. Mica Levi, nominated in the category for best original score, wore a safety pin above her breast pocket in solidarity with minorities and victims of hate.

Ava DuVernay chose a dress by a designer from a majority Muslim country.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Old Hollywood glamour

Hollywood loves to be self-referential — see: La La Land's 14 noms. So while it's a safe bet to wear fashion the industry made famous, it's one that's guaranteed to land Kirsten Dunst (in Dior Haute Couture) and Emma Stone (in Givenchy Couture) on best-dressed lists.

Shoulder pads

The eighties are back in a big way so it's no surprise that shoulder pads made an appearance at the awards. Dakota Johnson rocked a Gucci frock with strong shoulders as did best-actress nominee Isabelle Huppert (in Armani Privé).

OBITUARY

Film world mourning death of prolific actor Bill Paxton

Bill Paxton, a prolific and charismatic actor who had memorable roles in such blockbusters as Apollo 13 and Titanic while also cherishing his work in One False Move and other low-budget movies and in the HBO series Big Love, has died from complications due to surgery. He was 61.

A family representative issued a statement Sunday on the death but provided no further details.

Paxton, a Fort Worth, Texas, native, appeared in dozens of movies and television shows and seemed to be around when history was made both on and off screen. As a boy, he was in the crowd that welcomed President John F. Kennedy in Texas on the morning of Nov. 22, 1963, hours before Kennedy was killed in Dallas. As a young man, he worked in the art department for "B" movie king Roger Corman, who helped launch the careers of actors and filmmakers.

Paxton's movie credits included some of the signature works of the past 40 years, from Titanic and Apollo 13 to The Terminator and Aliens. Television fans knew him for his role as a polygamist, with three wives who expected the best from him, in the HBO series Big Love, for which he received three Golden Globe nominations.

Bill Paxton was currently starring in the CBS drama Training Day. The actor has died from complications due to surgery, his family said in a statement Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

Paxton was currently starring in the CBS drama Training Day, which premiered Feb. 2. The network has not yet announced whether it will continue to air the completed episodes.

Paxton is survived by his wife of 30 years, Louise Newbury, and their two children. His first marriage, to Kelly Rowan, ended in divorce.

His death adds a sad note to Sunday night's Academy Awards ceremonies. Paxton was never nominated but appeared in several Oscar-winning movies and was beloved and respected throughout Hollywood and beyond.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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YOU CAN DO THIS FILM/VIDEO EDITOR

It's all about storytelling

WHY I LIKE MY JOB

Lauren Horn, 28, video editor, School Editing, Toronto.

In high school, I'd go around filming my friends and family editing the videos together using whatever program came with my computer. It was a lot of fun, and I saw that it was a viable career option — so I went from there.

I took an undergrad in a bachelor of arts, specialized in motion pictures in Johannesburg, South Africa, where I'm from. We were given the option to study any portion of film — writing, directing, cinematography and I fell in love with the editing part of it.

Today, I work with a lot of advertising agencies, primarily on commercials,

At the crux of it, editing is all about storytelling — taking a mass of footage and creating a storyline out of it. It's about taking the raw material you have and creating something engaging.

On any given day, I'm looking through footage, cutting it together or showing my clients what I've come up with. I might have anywhere from three to 10 hours of footage, which we need to get down to 30 seconds. It can take several days. The goal is to get my clients to say, "this is great, and it's going on air."

I'm really passionate about my job. We work crazy hours: I can work until 5 a.m. and not even look at the clock because it's all-consuming — which I love. I liken my job to working with a 1,000-piece puzzle.

THE BASICS: Film or video editor

$45,743

Median annual salary for video editors. Experienced film editors can expect to make upwards of **$74,858**.

+14%

The amount of growth expected in this field over the next eight years.

Data for this feature was provided by torontofilmschool.com monster.ca, onetonline.org, payscale.com, yorku.ca and ubc.ca.

HOW TO START

There are a number of different ways people can get into film editing. Some universities, such as York University and the University of British Columbia, offer bachelors and masters programs in film arts, with specialities in the production process. Colleges across the country (including London's Fanshawe and Toronto's Sheridan) and specialty and vocational schools (such as the Toronto Film School) also offer specialized certificates and diplomas. In most post-secondary programs, students can expect to learn general insight into how the film industry works, as well as production theory. Those specializing in editing will also learn to develop storyboards, as well as how the software works to cut video together. Most programs also offer internships for hands-on training. Those looking to skip school can also learn the editing process on the job, though most positions require some form of previous experience.

WHERE YOU CAN GO

Film editors are most prevalent in Toronto and Vancouver, where the advertising and film and TV industries are concentrated, though there are opportunities across the country. Those who aren't interested in working in film, television or advertising can often find jobs in many newsrooms, while big corporations will often employ video editors to handle corporate communications.

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LA CITÉ

CHANGING PATH

Tech student joining a circus

Liz Brown
For Metro Canada

Sara Greenberg, a computer engineering student, is turning a lifelong hobby into a full-time gig after earning a spot to join Cavalia's circus in China. COURTESY PILKINGTON PHOTOGRAPHY

In a grey-block building on the University of Waterloo campus, in a room filled with humming computers and workstations partitioned by beige cubicle walls, Sara Greenberg is hard at work creating algorithms to enhance her aerial circus performances.

The systems design engineering master's student — who moonlights as an acrobat and aerialist — claims she's the "weirdest person" in the computer lab. "I mean, everyone here is weird in their own great way," she says. "But I'm the only one running away to join the circus."

Right now, Greenberg, 25, is riding the high of fulfilling a lifelong dream. In January she got a call from Cavalia — the multimedia horse-themed circus show — offering her a two-year contract to perform in their China productions. In the show she'll be doing bungee trapeze and flying tricks in a harness, while holding the hands of someone riding a horse.

Performing full-time in a circus show was a dream Greenberg had since she started taking circus lessons in Halifax at age 14. A self-described "mediocre" gymnast when she was younger, she loved the people and culture of the circus.

By age 17, however, Greenberg had given up on the dream of performing full time for a major production like Cirque du Soleil. "I remember saying 'I'm not good enough' and 'I'm too old now,'" she says.

She decided to take a more traditional path, enrolling in engineering at the University of Waterloo. "It's the other thing I love," she says. "I love solving problems and working with technology."

Throughout her studies, Greenberg continued to dabble in circus, taking short contract gigs in shows across North America. When she graduated and started work in Toronto as a web developer, she took an evening job as an instructor at Cirque-Ability, a firm offering aerial and acrobatics classes in the city's west end.

Greenberg even began incorporating her studies with her circus hobby. She created an algorithm called TIGGER (texture illumination guided global energy response). The program projects an aura-type image behind her as she's performing an aerial hoop act to Carl Sagan's Pale Blue Dot monologue.

Last summer, Greenberg heard that Cavalia was holding open auditions in Toronto and on a whim decided to give her dream of running away to join the circus one more shot.

metro SPORTS

Whistler's Marielle Thompson clinched the World Cup ski cross crown Saturday at Russia's Sunny Valley resort with her sixth win of the season

Homan completes Scotties hat trick

TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

Ontario takes down Manitoba in an extra end

Ontario's Rachel Homan refused to lose a third time to one team at the Canadian women's curling championship.

Homan reclaimed the Canadian title with an 8-6 win in an extra end over Manitoba's Michelle Englot on Sunday.

"That's an unbelievable win by my team," Homan said. "That's the hardest win we've ever fought for I think."

At 27, Homan is the youngest skip, male or female, to win three Canadian championships.

Homan, third Emma Miskew and lead Lisa Weagle out of the Ottawa Curling Club won the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in 2013 and 2014. It was the first Hearts win for second Joanne Courtney.

They'll represent Canada at the women's world championship March 18-26 in Beijing. Homan has yet to win a world title after bronze and silver in two previous appearances.

"I can't wait to put the Maple Leaf on," Homan said.

Ontario had lost to Manitoba in both Friday's Page playoff game between the top two seeds and also to conclude their preliminary rounds Thursday.

Ontario skip Rachel Homan, left, third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle pose with the championship trophy after defeating Manitoba in the final of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in St. Catharines, Ont., on Sunday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homan gained a rematch via a semifinal win Saturday over Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville.

Up 6-4 coming home without hammer, a mistake by Miskew peeling a guard in the 10th had Manitoba setting up for three points and the win.

Homan played defence with a double takeout on her last shot, so Englot drew for two to send it into an 11th end.

Ontario laying two at the top of the eight-foot rings, Englot drew to the back of the four-foot rings with a centre guard for partial protection. Homan raised her own counter to clear it for the win.

"It was an incredible game," Englot said. "I gave up the three early and had to battle back from there and unfortunately didn't quite make it.

"We took her to last rock and made her make her last shot."

Calgary's Chelsea Carey, the 2016 winner, beat McCarville 7-4 for the bronze medal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Troy Stecher GETTY IMAGES

NHL

Canucks' mumps toll up to 7 players

Vancouver Canucks head coach Willie Desjardins says two more players and a trainer are experiencing symptoms of the mumps.

Desjardins confirmed Sunday that forward Anton Rodin and defenceman Ben Hutton are the latest players to be affected by the disease that has dismantled the Canucks' lineup.

The Canucks were missing five players due to the highly contagious virus in their 4-1 loss at home to San Jose on Saturday night.

Troy Stecher is the only player with a confirmed case of the mumps, but fellow defencemen Christopher Tanev and Nikita Tryamkin, along with forwards Mike Chaput and Markus Granlund were held out of Saturday's game after showing symptoms.

The Canucks' next game is Tuesday at home against Detroit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Busch outlasts field in crash-filled Daytona 500

Kurt Busch had a monster start to the season with a last-lap pass to win the crash-filled Daytona 500.

Busch is sponsored by Monster Energy, which kicked off its first season as the title sponsor for NASCAR's top series Sunday with the season-opener. It wasn't NASCAR's finest moment, though, as multiple accidents pared down the field at the end.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DeRozan, Ibaka carry Raptors to victory

Two games since they rejigged their roster, the Raptors are marching back up the Eastern Conference standings — despite the absence of all-star guard Kyle Lowry.

DeMar DeRozan scored 33 points and newcomer Serge Ibaka had 18 points and 10 rebounds as Toronto beat the Portland Trail Blazers 112-106 for their third straight victory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bolts' Bishop traded to Kings

NHL

Los Angeles acquire goalie to help push for playoffs

The Los Angeles Kings have decided to make their post-season push with two dependable veteran goalies sharing the crease.

Los Angeles acquired Ben Bishop from the Tampa Bay Lightning on Sunday in a trade including goalie Peter Budaj and an exchange of draft picks.

The Kings will pair Bishop with Jonathan Quick in a formidable tandem down the stretch as they attempt to make the playoffs for the seventh time in eight years. Los Angeles (30-27-4) began the day three points behind St. Louis for the second wild-card berth in the Western Conference.

Ben Bishop. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Quick returned only Saturday from a 59-game absence with a serious groin injury, and general manager Dean Lombardi didn't want to overwork his two-time Stanley Cup champion goalie during a difficult March schedule.

"This is not an insurance policy," Lombardi said. "It is a way that we think to make sure that Jon is broken in properly, and make sure we're in position to win every game down the stretch. Let's face it, there's not a lot of room for error and we want to make sure we have a No. 1 goalie in there every night."

The Kings gave up Budaj, who filled in admirably as their starter during Quick's 4-month absence, along with junior defenceman Erik Cernak. Tampa Bay also got a 2017 seventh-round pick and another conditional pick that could become a second-round selection, but only if extraordinary conditions are met.

Los Angeles received Bishop and Tampa Bay's 2017 fifth-round pick. Bishop is an unrestricted free agent this summer. Both teams are scrapping to get into playoff position over the next six weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEAGUE CUP ZLATAN'S DOUBLE DOES JOB FOR UNITED Manchester United defender Eric Bailly jumps on Zlatan Ibrahimovic's shoulders after the big Swede's first goal in the English League Cup final against Southampton on Sunday at Wembley Stadium in London. Ibrahimovic struck again in the 87th minute to give United the 3-2 victory. MICHAEL SEELE/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Fowler takes Honda Classic

Rickie Fowler made it interesting Sunday for as long as it took him to make two big putts to pull away in the Honda Classic.

Staked to a four-shot lead, Fowler hit one putt into a sprinkler hole, hit a tee shot into the water and watched a big lead shrink to one over Gary Woodland early on the back nine. Fowler answered with consecutive birdie putts of 40 and 25 feet and closed with a 1-over 71 for a four-shot victory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guay wins super-G bronze

Canadian Erik Guay captured a bronze medal in a men's World Cup super-G on Sunday.

The Mont-Tremblant, Que., veteran led at every interval of his final run until the last one, crossing the finish line 0.23 seconds behind winner Peter Fill of Italy. Guay's third super-G World Cup podium moved him into eighth place in the overall standings.

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Healthy Cauliflower Cous Cous with Roasted Brussels Sprouts

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Eating your veggies just got a whole lot easier.

Ready in 40 minutes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 sweet potato, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 cups Brussels sprouts, quartered
- 1 Tbsp olive oil plus two tsp
- 1 head cauliflower
- 1 Tbsp salt, plus 2 tsp
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta
- 1 pat of butter
- 4 eggs

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400. In a bowl, toss sweet potato and Brussels sprout pieces with 2 tsp olive oil and 1/2 tsp salt. Spread vegetables out on rimmed baking sheet and roast, stirring once or twice, until deep golden brown, crisp outside and tender inside, 20 to 25 minutes.

2. Cut cauliflower in quarters and carve out inner core. Cut quarters into florets and transfer the food processor, pulsing into cous cous-sized granules. Put in a bowl.

3. Heat a large skillet over medium heat then add 1 tbsp oil. Add cauliflower cous cous and sprinkle with remaining salt. Add cumin and stir. Cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Take off heat and set aside. Gather 2 cups of cous cous.

4. In another large frying pan over medium heat, add a pat of butter and four eggs. Cook a few minutes and cover 1 to 2 minutes. Remove eggs once the whites are set and the yolks are cooked to your preference.

5. Stir together the cous cous, sweet potato mix and feta or divide veggies amongst four bowls and sprinkle with feta. Top each bowl with a fried egg and serve.

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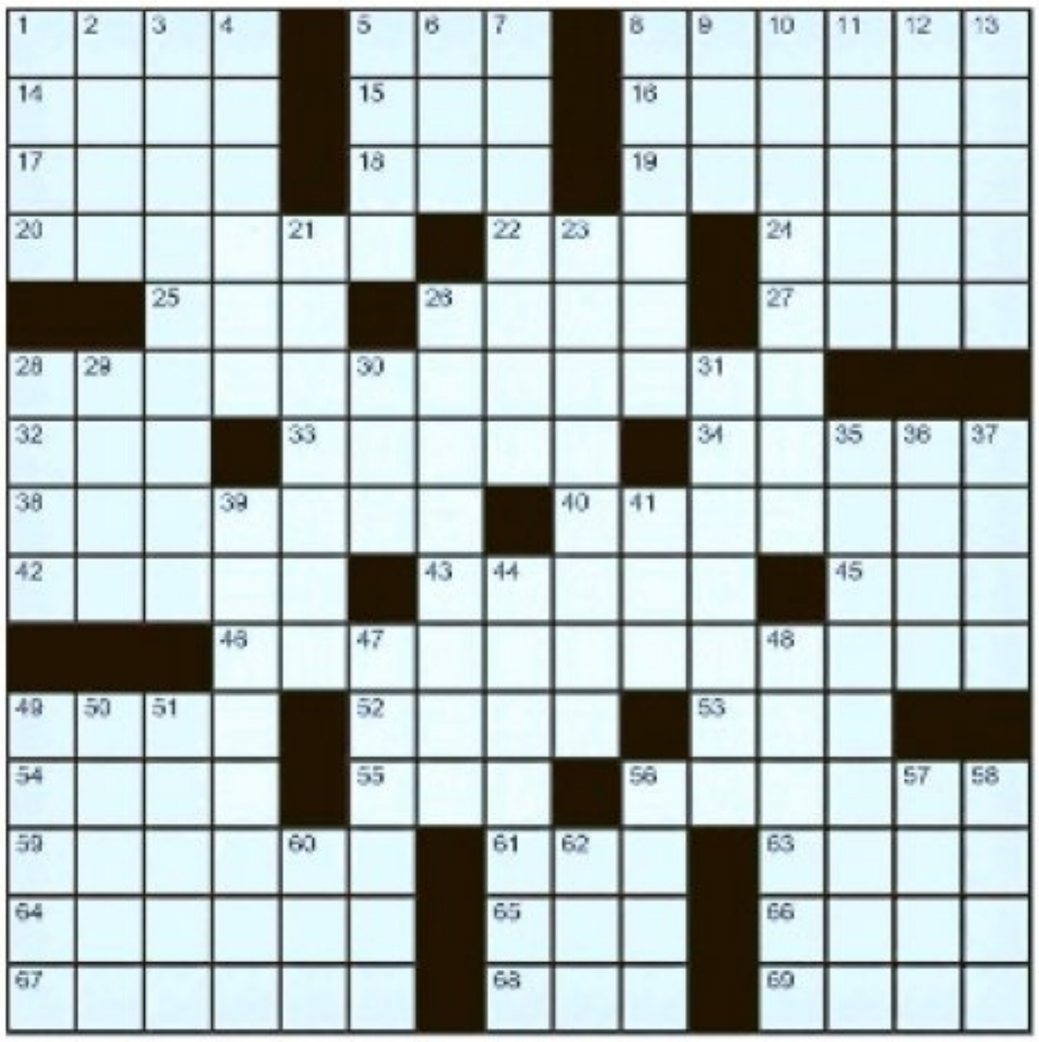
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. 17th-century Dutch painter, Nicolaes _
5. Ordinal suffixes
8. Actress Alyssa
14. "In the Valley of _" (2007)
15. At the age of, in Latin [abbr.]
16. "The Jeffersons" star Ms. Sanford
17. Spanish double affirmative
18. _-Jongg
19. Sings in The Alps
20. "I _ _ tell you this, but..."
22. Greek alphabet letter
24. Ivy League school
25. Mr. Gulager of "The Virginian"
26. Blood type: letter + abbr.
27. Welsh opera singer Mr. Terfel
28. Beaty _ Museum (University of British Columbia's natural history attraction)
32. Anecdotal collection
33. "There's no room _ _." (I guess we'll be standing)
34. Ink: French
38. Like still-in-the-glass milk
40. Golden-crowned _ (Tiny songbird)
42. "I share that sentiment.": 2 wds.
43. Construct
45. Pickering's prov.
46. As per #28-Across... Marine _ Collection (No backbone is required to view these specimens!)
49. Place the painting
52. "Count _ _ a blessing."
53. Informally fine
54. _ _ the air
55. Amer. ID
56. 2002 Atom Egoyan film
59. "My friend.", in Montreal: 2 mots
61. Carole King's "_ Too Late"
63. Pharmacy quantity
64. Daily _ (Clark Kent's newspaper)
65. 'Tail'-meaning prefix
66. Hawkeye State
67. Some garden plants
68. Madonna's "_ Girl"
69. 911-calling reason, briefly

DOWN
1. Interlock
2. Et _ (And others)
3. New Brunswick's location: 2 wds.
4. Canadian _ (Region of rocks)
5. _-_-'-shanter
6. "Isn't _ _ bit..." - The Beatles, "Nowhere Man"
7. Montreal-set Oscar Peterson tune: "Place _-_"
8. "The Karate Kid" (1984) character
9. Prefix to 'thermal'
10. NHL sportsmanship award, _ _ Memorial Trophy
11. "Fuzzy Wuzzy was _ _."
12. "Hot in Herre" rap star
13. Merlin _ (Football player turned actor)
21. University fee
23. At-home diagnostic purchases: 2 wds.
26. Wisest/safest choices: 2 wds.
28. Author, L. Frank _ (b.1856 - d.1919)
29. Ye olde rest stop
30. Book serial abbr.
31. Serve Cliff and Norm: 2 wds.
35. Jacket-checking spot
36. Monthly payment
37. 'Kitchen' add-on
39. Moving/heartfelt
41. 'Tact' suffix
44. Nuclear weapon element
47. Sojourns
48. Band's helper
49. Skeptic's sound
50. Olympian, _ Anton Ohno
51. Songstress Ms. Simone's
56. Biblical stringed instrument
57. "..._ _ forgive those who trespass..."
58. Split
60. "Oh, give _ _ home..."
62. Drummer Mr. Cool

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be careful not to overestimate your abilities to do something today, because it's easy to do. Your ruler Mars is in your sign, getting zapped by Jupiter. "I am King!"

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You might try to take on more than you can handle by pulling strings behind the scenes today. Be careful. No one is bulletproof.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will be aggressive when dealing with friends and groups today. This is why you are inclined to take over and run the show. This might be a good thing, but it might not be.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You're going to give it everything you've got today, because your ambition is aroused. You believe in yourself, and you want others to believe in you as well. (They probably will.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Avoid coming on too strong with political arguments or discussions about religion and race. Lighten up — you don't need to go on a rant.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you have to divide an inheritance or shared property or something like this, be prudent today. Your impulse is to go overboard. Don't bet the farm. Protect everyone's best interests.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You might attract someone today who is overbearing and bossy. You might want to avoid this person, if possible. (Forewarned is forearmed.)

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You're willing to work hard today because you are enthusiastic about something. This is why you have the energy to go all the way and encourage others to follow you.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Those of you involved in sports will be energetic and over-the-top today because you won't stop until you win. You like to work hard/party hard; nevertheless, be cool today.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't tackle more than you can handle by taking on renovations and big projects at home. Learn to crawl before you walk. Learn to walk before you run.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are so enthusiastic today, your sales abilities are amazing. However, if you come on too strong, then people will not trust you. Caution.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You have big moneymaking ideas today, and they just might fly. However, be smart and keep your feet on the ground even though your head is in the clouds.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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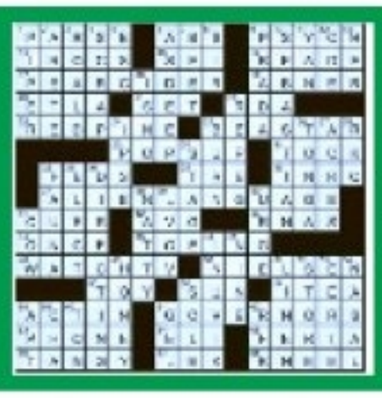

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